IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A hydraulic system, comprising:

a hydraulic pressure source;

a tank;

a first hydraulic load associated with a first load function;

a second hydraulic load associated with a second load function; and

an ~~a single,~~ independent metering valve assembly ~~including a plurality of independently and electronically controllable valves operatively disposed between the hydraulic pressure source, the tank, and the first and second load functions, said single, independent metering valve assembly having an inlet fluidly coupled with said pressure source, a first outlet fluidly coupled with said first hydraulic load, a second outlet fluidly coupled with said second hydraulic load, and a third outlet coupled with the tank~~ comprising: a first controllable valve being structured and arranged to control flow between the hydraulic pressure source and the first hydraulic load and a second controllable valve being structured and arranged to control flow between the hydraulic pressure source and the second hydraulic load, said first and second controllable valves having inlets concomitantly fluidly connected to the hydraulic pressure source through a common inlet,

wherein said first load being independently and separably operable relative said second load through said first controllable valve.

2. (Original) The hydraulic system of claim 1, said first hydraulic load including one of a fan motor and a brake, and said second hydraulic load including the other one of the fan motor and the brake.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The hydraulic system of claim 1, said second hydraulic load including a pair of brakes, and including an adjustable valve fluidly interconnecting said

second outlet with each of said brakes, said adjustable valve controlling an amount of flow from said second outlet to each of said brakes.

5. (Currently Amended) The hydraulic system of claim 1, further comprising a third controllable valve, wherein said ~~plurality of controllable valves includes a~~ first controllable valve is disposed between said first hydraulic load and the hydraulic pressure source and the second controllable valve is ~~includes a pair of controllable valves~~ disposed between said second hydraulic load and the hydraulic pressure source and the third controllable valve is disposed between one of the first or second hydraulic load and the tank.

6. (Currently Amended) The hydraulic system of claim 5, further comprising ~~including a second controllable valve coupled between said first hydraulic load and said tank, and said pair of controllable valves including a third controllable valve coupled between said pressure source and said second hydraulic load and~~ a fourth controllable valve disposed between the other of said one of the first or second hydraulic loads ~~coupled between said second hydraulic load~~ and said tank.

7. (Currently Amended) The hydraulic system of claim 1, including a first pressure sensor fluidly coupled with an ~~said first~~ outlet of said first controllable valve and a second pressure sensor fluidly coupled with an outlet of said second ~~outlet~~ controllable valve.

Claims 8 – 20 (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Added) A hydraulic system, comprising:

a hydraulic pressure source;

a first hydraulic load associated with a first load function;

a second hydraulic load associated with a second load function, the second hydraulic load including a pair of brakes;

an independent metering valve assembly including a plurality of independently and electronically controllable valves, said independent metering valve assembly including an inlet fluidly coupled with said pressure source, a first outlet fluidly coupled with said first hydraulic load, and a second outlet fluidly coupled with said second hydraulic load; and

an adjustable valve controlling an amount of flow from said second outlet to each of said brakes.

22. (Previously Added) A work machine, comprising:

a frame;

a hydraulic system carried by said frame, said hydraulic system including:

a hydraulic pressure source;

a first hydraulic load associated with a first load function;

a second hydraulic load associated with a second load function, the second hydraulic load including a pair of brakes;

an independent metering valve assembly including a plurality of independently and electronically controllable valves, said independent metering valve assembly including an inlet fluidly coupled with said pressure source, a first outlet fluidly coupled with said first hydraulic load, and a second outlet fluidly coupled with said second hydraulic load; and

an adjustable valve controlling an amount of flow from said second outlet to each of said brakes.

23. (New) A method of controlling output of a first hydraulic load and a second hydraulic load using a common independent metering valve assembly, the method comprising:

directing fluid from a pressure source to a first hydraulic load through a first controllable valve;

communicating the directed fluid from the pressure source to a second hydraulic load through a second controllable valve; and

controlling flow downstream of one of the first or second hydraulic loads through a third controllable valve being fluidly connected between the one of the first or second hydraulic loads and a tank.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising: controlling flow downstream of the other of the first or second hydraulic loads through a fourth controllable valve being fluidly connected between the other of the first or second hydraulic loads and the tank.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the first, second and third controllable valves are substantially similar.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising modifying flow between the second control valve and the second load through an adjustable valve disposed therebetween.

27. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the first hydraulic load consists of a fan system and the second hydraulic load consists of a braking system.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of directing priority flow to the braking system.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 21-28 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 8-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 21 and 22 have been allowed. Claims 23-28 have been newly added. The applicants respectfully request that prior to the examination of the present application that the provided claim amendments be entered.

It is believed that Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 21-28 now define the inventive subject matter with a scope that is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art of record and